

THE  
TRUE FRIENDS  
TO  
CORPORATIONS  
VINDICATED;  
IN  
ANSWER  
TO

A LETTER concerning the  
Disabling Clauses lately offered to the  
House of Commons for Regulating Cor-  
porations.

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Printed in the Year MDCXG.

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THE  
TRUE FRIENDS  
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Cannot discommend the Wisdom of a certain Club, in their late Address only by word of mouth, that the Form might not be canvass'd, or afterwards brought in Judgment against them, if the *Abdicated King* should return, or they should serve *Them* as some of them did the *Last*, to whom in a true sense

they gave only words.

Would they still have maintain'd the Character of *Partisans*, they should have chosen rather to wound others in the dark, than, by Printing, bring Themselves and their Censures to a publick Scrutiny; and should have kept to their artful Whispers, and nameless-written Letters to *Corporations*, representing some of the *Members* of the *Last Parliament* as Opposers of *Monarchy* for their *Bed-tine* in the *King's Service*; or pushing down the *Church of England*, because of their Zeal to erect it upon a lasting Foundation; and being for raising *Corporations*, by their endeavours to restore their Privileges, and weed them from those who had arbitrarily invaded, or treacherously

*Quere. Whether not at the D—?*

*Verba dare, often us'd for Corning.*

Printed by B. B.

But since such Men have enlightned the World with a Print, shewing the sense of the Party about this matter, they at least warrant Others to take a liberty of publishing as much free Truth, as they do malicious Falshood.

To observe how bare faced they are in justifying all those Enormities which occasioned His present Majesty's Accession to the Throne, not only shews, That they strike at the very root of his Government, but argues their being countenanced and upheld by some who make use of the King's Name and Authority against Himself. Nor, though the Letter intimates and His Majesty has thought fit to express himself on their side, can I believe this Writer more to design the Justification and Support of His Majesty's Government, than did the Author of *The Magistracy and Government vindicated*.

P. 9. Some say His Majesty was pleased to express his dislike, &c. Quare, Whether both were not written by the same hand?

P. 20.

To give my thoughts of the Letter in short, it is not only a Scurrilous Invektive against those Worthy Members of the last Parliament, who would have set a deserved Mark of dislike upon *Superstition*, but a Calumnious Libel upon the whole *Council of England*, which he says, *are all concerned in Superstition*. This Assertion may proceed either from *Ignorance* in the Church, or some private Interest which has the preference with him. Nor could the Enemies to the Church define a greater Advantage against it, than that they might have ground to charge the whole Party, as this Gentleman does, with acting or consenting to the Abuse of the *State*.

Jo. vult. ad 104  
101 h. 11. 113  
gnit. 100

His Colours are so grossly dashed on, that any man may see them not to be natural: His *History* is *distorted*, and his *reasons* are false and *unintelligible*, and yet moreover more *Major* than *Trifles*. It is not to be doubted but, he himself, has made a *contribution* to the Criminal Transactions of those times; which has *been* *done*, which finds an Orator, as *Discretion* has heretofore, began to rage.

Letter, p. 6.

The



The Lord Shaftsbury, and others who would have objected the Contention, he, according to the *Old Court*, renders guilty of a Defect, against the Crown, the turning the People from upon *Pragmatism*, the Murders of the most Noble Abettors of the Religion and Laws of their Country, were with him but the clapping up of *new* *unquiet and dangerous rivers*, the imposing *Sacrifices* upon the City of London, never chosen by it, whereby no place was left free from *Juries*, devoted to the Will of the Court, was a prudent *feigning* those *Defects* that *Barl* was embroiled in, and the *Surrenders of Charters*, and *Additions* in Abhorrence of True English Parliaments, were but the results of a warmth and spirit, which began to appear even in the more indifferent sort of *Men* in favour of the Monarchy and Government; expressions of the good Will of a People, grateful for a Mighty Deliverance, and Decorations of their Duty and Affection to the Government. Thus they who were loyal against Law, might express their Duty and Affection to the Government in destroying it. The Grants of *petty Markets and Fairs* for Hobby-horses and Ginger-bread, or a *Man of Bore* for a Mayor, not to say a *Fool's Coat*, in lieu of the Peoples Rights of Elections to Parliaments, without the Influence or false Returns of Magistrates imposed upon them, were a *Reciprocation on the King's side*, suitable to their expressions of Affection to him, and those expressions of good will, to which in that time they were strangely inclin'd, or insensibly acted by the Stars, without any concurrence of their Wills.

They who were not animated with this Spirit of Loyalty, were cast to the Dogs, as dead in Law, and the *the Government* was justified by an opportunity to cause *unhappy Friends* to that *to advance them who would* sell their Country for a little Place and Countenance, but in truth to make them such Slaves as they desired, or deferred to be, good *Loyal French* Patriots, with Wooden Shins and Gunpowder Scares, trusting and aiding them to be in the *Conquer* of their *Miner*. They

# They

P. 6.

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*Ibid.*

*Ibid.*

*Ibid.*

*Ibid.*

*Ibid.*

*Ibid.*

P. 6. They had their account in the Revenues of the Towns, which they shar'd among them, or Salaries for secret Services, while the Towns were cajoled with Feathers in their Caps, and some insignificant precarious Privileges.

*Ibid.* The City of London's Petition for the sitting of a Parliament to enquire into the Popish Plot, and the Rates which they had set upon Goods and Stalls in their Markes, far short of what the meritorious Cradock afterwards exacted under colour of Authority from the Court, were Crimes of Forfeiture assign'd, the fact of which was not denied; and whatever was the Law, it was but requisite they should be adjudg'd such Crimes, when the Case of London had put the Government to a stand, and there was a publick and avowed stop put to the course of Justice there.

P. 6, & 7.

P. 6. This was the Language of the Party formerly, and the present effect of their impunity; but methinks it is too soon to open so far again already, till they see the desired effect of the power that Magistrates have in the conduct of Elections, by notice, time, place, countenance, and the like; and to return whom they please, whomever is chosen.

P. 11.

If this was the consequence of Surrenders, as he would have it be, if others were let in upon turning Surrenderers out, then surely, none of this Rhetorician's Arts can make them be thought unjust, uncharitable, and inhumane, who would have disabled men from having benefit by their own Crimes, so destructive to the Constitution of the Government.

P. 5.

If the influence and power of Magistrates be so great as he tells us, and the course of determining disputed Elections above, such as some think he lays to the charge of the wrong Party; then since they who had been displac'd by virtue of the power which themselves gave, were restor'd by the Law King, it would not be thought strange, if many who had been dipe in Surrenders were return'd, or sate as return'd of the last Parliament; and if there were any such, they might well be tender of punishing that Crime in which themselves were involv'd: which might give a probable account of the

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the

the opposition which the disabling, and other Penal Clauses met with; and yet they had pass'd, had not the well-meaning Party in the House been trickt by the delay obtain'd at the motion of one, thought to row one way, and look another; which gave time to bring many Members out of the Countrey who had wholly neglected the Trust which the People repos'd in them by their choice, but would be sure to take care of themselves: and yet this unexpected addition to their numbers had not cast the ballance, but that too great confidence in the reasonableness of the thing made others careless.

This Writer makes a mighty matter of their endeavour to pass the Clauses by way of Rider, which he terms a *well-tempered Craft*; whereas it is not only Parliamentary, but common, where men fear to lose a good Bill by clogging it, to bring in a new Clause in that manner, which may be rejected without loss of the Bill.

P. 4.

Before Sir Formal proceeds to dissect the Clauses, and shew the admirable Justice, Charity and Humanity, he should have added, Veracity of them; he must beg the favour to state in a few words, the matter of surrenders of Charters, the foundation whereupon this Fabrick was to be erected: his few words are about three pages, which answer his three Orders of Persons concern'd in Surrenders.

P. 5.

Of his first Order are divers of the Nobility, and most of the considerable Gentry, who were pleas'd to join themselves with Corporations in these matters, and were their Mediators above in the procuring what advantages they desired.

P. 8.

Admirable Condescension, Charity and Humanity! but where was the reciprocation on the Peoples side for all this? I hope they did not curse their Courtship.

P. 6.

Ibid.

This interposition of Great Men was stark love and kindness to the poor People; they had no design to ingratiate themselves at Court by those Services upon which they valued themselves there, or to get into Corporations, and wheedle the Common People out of their most desirable Interest; but if they did, the Present of a Charter was but a mean acknowledgment of the honour of having a Great Man a

P. 7.



Oh! the admirable Virtue of *Passive-Obedience*, to gloss over the most guilty Compliances and Actions, towards subverting our Religion, Laws, and Liberties.

His third and *Superlative* degree is of such, who projected the modelling of Corporations, to influence Elections of Members to Parliament; and sent Itinerant Regulators all over England, to tamper with the Inhabitants, and either to find out Men of themselves disposed, or who might be persuaded to serve turns; and accordingly to place and displace them under the Power of the New Charters.

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P. 7.

This is very unfairly put; for by this, he would insinuate, as if that part of the Nobility and Gentry, which himself loads with *Threatning Corporations* into Compliances, were not at all concern'd in projecting the modelling Corporations; but only those, who came upon the Stage some years after they were modell'd; but the Projectors of the modelling, and procurers of the new Charters, were certainly the same; and if they sent the *Itinerant Regulators*, which his Copulative [and] shews, then according to himself, the whole Church of England Party were concern'd in the sending *Itinerant Regulators*, as well as consenting to *Surrenders*. However, it seems it was no fault for Persons of *Quality*, to go up and down themselves to regulate Corporations, and make their *Grooms* and *Footmen* free of them; so our vote the Inhabitants; but to send poor *Itinerant Regulators*, was unpardonable, when the Work deserv'd, and stood in need of greater *Quality*, to promote it.

Was the Improvement of this, by Mr. P. at my Lord Russell's Trial.

In these *Projectors*, he adds, the *Regulators* themselves, and such as complied with them, and were therefore put into Office in Corporations, and to show their Inclination, acted with-out being qualified by Law. That he might well say, one had as handsful, compared with the multitude of others, which he would excuse, and this is a plain Confession which Party had the greatest Share in these things which justify the late Revolution. But that *Handsful* are brought in by *Head and Shoulders*; among Persons concern'd in the *Surrender*; yes it must be said, that he is so modell'd in Charge

P. 8.



only the *Itinerant Regulators*, and those who came in upon *Regulations* without qualifying themselves by Law; being aware that all others would have turn'd the Charge upon his beloved Friends the *Surrenderers*, who not only gave them the opportunity, but by directions from above, upon the turning out some of their Fellow-members, proceeded to the Choice of such as were recommended, being themselves *quiet and good Men*, and chusing to err *farther in Compliance with, than in Opposition to their Superiors*.

P. 7.

P. 8.

But I cannot tell by what Figure, but an *Irony*, he makes his first Order of Persons concern'd in *Surrenders*, to have been *Benefactors to their Towns*; unless it be a benefit to have *Gentlemen and Clergy-men* to come in to Vote, and out-vote them, to give credit and a blessing to the *Business*.

Ib.

Vid. This Con-

sept. P. 12.

to which was

P. 14 of the

book of the

book of the

And I fear he must use the same Figure, to make all the second Order, to have been *well-meaning, and honest Men*. What did none of them force open *Chairs* to get the *Charities*? Did none of them tempt the very Temptation, and solicit *Quo Warranto's*, and become *Informers and Prosecutors* against their *Oldies or Towns*? Did none of them use Threats to their Fellow-members? Did a few never pretend to Act in the Name of the Majority? Surely this *vain Writer* cannot think that his *Flood of Rhetoric* should drown Men's Senses. Did nothing but the *true Flood of Regulators*, send to the Subversion of the *Established Laws*? Was there no tendency to their Subversion by their Actions, who gave the *Regulators* an handle? Did they all Judge, and do as they ought, or else were but *unwittingly Mistaken*, who were necessary to to manifest a Subversion, not only of the *Established Laws*, but of the very Foundation of their *Establishment*? Did they deserve *Praises*, rather than *Reproach or Punishment*? This *Writer* indeed tells us, *he must needs say, They deserve Praises, rather than Reproach or Punishment*; to which perhaps he may be constrained by the consideration of his own *Idioty* in those things,

P. 8.

Ib.

Ib.

things, which have been the Nations Burthen and Reproach.

On but they chiefly, if not only stemm'd the Tide of Regulations, bore the brunt, stood out, and were displaced with all possible Discountenance; which shews, as soon as they saw the Evil, they avoided it, and bore the Inconveniences with Resolution, while others that shall be nameless, yielded, and were prefer'd to Magistracy.

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P. 7.

Ales! good People! their Eyes were never open'd, till the Power they gave the Court was turned against them; might they have had the Regulations still, and have acted under the old disguise, no rigid Cato among them, should have put the Government to a stand. But did this Writers Nameless Men come into Magistracy in Corporations, till the Surrenderers had made way for them, not only by the Power which they generously gave the Court, to turn themselves out, but by the actual Choice of the Surrenderers still remaining in? When the late Court was to strike out one half of this Gentlemans Church party in a Corporation, leaving the rest to chuse others in; was it more than Cross or Pile, which half would be most complying in the Choice? They at least, who did comply, did not bear the Brunt; and they who were turned out, being as likely to have erred, rather in compliance with, than Opposition to their Superiors. We may well say, it was not so much their Stiffness which occasioned their removal, as the necessity the Managers were under to change hands, and to trim the Ship of State, after it had been over-set by this Tantalous Crew.

And it may deserve a Question, Which are most to be blamed, they who came into the Magistracy, when they had hopes of doing good by keeping ill Men out; or they, who while they were in, were guilty of such Compliances, that it might reasonably be believed they would stop at nothing? And whether it is more honourable to be Favourites of the Papists now, than it was while the late King was in possession?

P. 9. To come to his accurate Dissection of the Clauses, regards  
 The first Clause, For the sake of publick Justice, and for  
 the better Government for the future, That such open  
 Denials upon the Constitution, and so notorious Violations of  
 Oaths and Trusts, should not go unpunished; Let all Men  
 might be encouraged to the like Guilt, in hopes to come off  
 with Impunity, tho they should fail of Success; Enacts, That  
 every Mayor, Recorder, Alderman, Sheriff, Common-Coun-  
 cil-man, Town-Clerk, Magistrate, or Officer, who did  
 take upon him to consent to, or join in any such Surrender or  
 Instrument, purporting such Surrender, or did Solicite, Procure,  
 Prosecute, or did Pay, or Contribute to the charge of Prosecu-  
 ting any such Felony, Quo Warranto, or Information in the  
 Name of Quo Warranto, by this Act declared void;  
 shall be, and is declared, adjudged, and enacted to be, for  
 the space of Seven years incapable, and disabled to all Intents  
 and purposes, to bear or execute any Office or Employment  
 or place of Trust, as a Member of such respective City, &c.  
 whereof, or wherein he was a Member in, or before that  
 time.

This Author in his Anatomical Lecture upon this Clause,  
 prosecutes three Heads: 1. The Design. 2. The Pru-  
 dence. 3. The Justice of the Clause. He takes a great  
 deal of Pains to prove, That the Design of the disabling  
 Clause, was only to disable; and that this Design may  
 be thought dangerous, you must take it with his Hypo-  
 thesis, That the Generality of the Eminent Inhabitants in  
 Corporations, and Neighbouring Gentlemen, and so of every known  
 Denomination, the whole Church-of-England-party consented to  
 Surrender. And yet, were this as true, as it is false,  
 it need not be granted, that upon turning them out, the  
 whole Business of Elections in Corporations must devolve up-  
 on those who have continually opposed the former; and to  
 whom he gives the favourable Character, of being  
 ever uneasy under, and perpetually tampering to alter  
 the Established Laws and Government: both in Church and  
 State.

That he gives the Denomination of the *English Party*, to those whom he takes to have been the greatest part; yet he cannot deny but there were others in Cities and Towns, whose consent was never taken; and if his consequence were true, the Freemen and Inhabitants in Corporations would be wholly defaced of their *Business* in Elections, by the Surrender of the Governing-part, and then certainly no Man can question the Justice of this Clause in disabling them to betray the Liberties of the Subjects, who had so manifestly subverted the very Constitution.

But that his *Assertion* is false, is well known to any Man who was conversant in the Country, while perhaps this Gentleman was projecting or arguing for the Project above. He cannot but know, that if the whole Church-of-England-party had been generally so quiet and good complying Men, as he would have it believed that they were, they being the most, if not the only Men who were in the Magistracy in Corporations, the Court would not have been put to the prosecuting *Quo Warranto's*, or pressing Surrenders; but because the Generality had their Eyes opened by the Popish Plot, and saw plainly where it center'd, therefore the Managers for Party having given the hottest Men the spoil of all others, they in Return in most places either got the Seals of Corporations by Force or Artifice, or as they had been entrusted with the Keys to other purposes. And thus they pretended to Represent the whole Governing-part in their Cities or Towns; and if the Majority did consent in any one place, perhaps no one Instance can be shown where they were unanimous, or where at least there was not an equal Number of other Members conformable to the Church, and as considerable in every respect, which should recommend them to the Favour of an Equal Government.

But the Folly of this Rhetorician, obliges me to pursue him through his various Windings; and it is pleasant to observe his Three Considerations to prove that disabling and

and nothing more was designed by the disabling Clause, or rather that the Design was to turn out the Church of England Party.

P. 11.

1. Because there is no Harmony nor Proportion between the Preamble and the Enacting-part. Where he would have you guess at his meaning. That Disability is not a Punishment equal to such a Crime as the Preamble would argue. If it be not, what becomes of his ironical

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flee at the admirable Justice, Charity, and Humanity of it? But, if to be rendred incapable of being chosen to serve in Parliament, or of being so much as concern'd in the Management of Parliamentary Elections and Returns, would take from many Men the Opportunity of enriching and advancing Themselves by betraying their Country or Corporations; then, surely, to such Men at least, it is a Punishment suitable to the Preamble. Yet were the Enacting Part short of the Preamble, would this be an Evidence of an evil intent against the Church?

P. 12.

2. But then he says, what the Preamble pretends is no more provided by the Law, that is, Reformation of the Abuse, and preventing the like for the future; for, says he, it contains neither a Declaration of the Law, nor so much as a Prohibition.

The Fourbery or Chicanery of this, to use a Great Man's Word, would be enough to put one out of temper. The Vulgar Reader, who is to be cheated, he thought had never heard that the Act which passed the House of Commons condemns Surrenders as illegal; and surely there is no need of prohibiting here what was before declared illegal, and is here punished as such; and not only the Punishment might deter the like Actions for the future, but the turning out the men that were guilty, were almost enough of it self to prevent the like again; it being hardly possible to get such another Set of Men so easy to be tempted or over-persuaded to forget the Oaths which they took when they were made Mem-

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bers.



1<sup>st</sup>, To preserve the Rights of their Corporations to their powers.

3. His third Argument to prove, That by the Clause for Disabling Surrenderers, no more was meant than disabling such, is very Comical; for, says he, there is no Mark set upon the great Criminals, the Regulators, that is to say, a Clause against one Crime reaches not to another; which tempts me to return a true Verse, for his faulty one, upon the Preamble.

His Verse is, *Quid proferat dignum tanto promissor biano*: where *pro* is made short, that should be long. The true Verse is, *Quid dignum tanto foret hic promissor biano*. Hor.

*Roscus hoc proferat prae grandi digna cothurno.*

This *Roscus* says, worthy his Tragick Meen.

But with what face can he blame this clause, because it sets no mark upon such as by force and fraud extorted Charters and surrenders from Corporations without the free consent of the Body? When if he write fairly, there never were any such Men; for none of them are to be found among his three Orders of Persons concern'd in Surrenders; and if they are there, they deserved Praises rather than Reproach or Punishment, and were either Benefactors, or Well-meaning Honest Men. Alas! they did it in their Sleep, as the Poet says. But however, though these Benefactors and well-meaning Men have no particular Mark set on them, they are deservedly disabled with others; And surely, it is no Objection, That all persons, though differently concern'd, are equally punished, when the punishment is to mitigate, that the least Guilty have reason to be thankful, and acknowledge the Mercy of the Law.

14. His Objection against the prudence of this Clause, deserves no longer a Consideration; for whereas he says, It revives a troublesome and scandalous Custom of Con-

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ters

ects and Non-Confessors, it certainly would remove all Danger of the Faction, by justly laying aside the scandalous Confessors. Nor must such men think to have their faults buried, till they have the modesty to withdraw from the Publick.

When he comes to consider the Justice of it, he would tie the Legislative Power to respect to Equity, and the spirit of Law; where, if by Equity he means such as Governs the Courts at Westminster, those Rules, and the course of Law, might be pass'd by, without swallowing all the Absurdities and Iniquities in nature. But this Gentleman can not write without an Hyperbole.

His first instance of Absurdities and Iniquity in this Clause, is, That men are condemned without Tryal; if this be condemnation, then at least the disability is such a punishment as condemns one of his Objections against the preamble: but farther, the Party disabled may act, if he thinks fit; if he do act, he is subject to the Penalty in a following Clause, which Penalty cannot be recover'd without tryal, but he artfully considers this Clause by it self, he would insinuate, That because of this disability, all that such Officers did after, were invalid, but the Clause makes no such provision, and he well knows that no prior Law does; but he seems to be one who not only would have our King to be barely King in fact, but who denies the Authority of those Acts of Parliament, in which he has given the Royal Assent.

He adds, That the Punishment is inflicted for doing what was then, and is still lawful, that is the bare consenting to a Surrender; this he makes to have been a judgment by way of council in matters of common Interest. According to his Reflection upon the Church of England Party, it was their common Interest that Charters should be surrender'd, and new ones taken, with the Names of all the Officers inserted, but to be turn'd out whenever the Court thought fit; that if that Sen would not comply with its Popish and Arbitrary Designs they might be garbled off, there were found enough good, quiet, comfortable men.

This

This Gentleman being, it seems, privy to the Affair of *Surrenders*, affirms, That consenting was innocent in multitudes, and of the best account; but the House of Commons, without any division, that I have heard of, upon that point, affirm'd the contrary, when they held it to be *illegal* in all, which makes his Affirmation pass for nothing: nor can the ignorance of the Law excuse *well-meaning* men; and it must be admitted that for the sake of publick Justice, even such men ought to be convicted of voluntary Perjury, where they forswear themselves through inadvertency, or ill advice. But I challenge him to shew any one instance since the time to which the Bill limits it, in which if a *Surrender* had force in Law (which it might have, and yet be a very ill Act; nay, perhaps the worse for that) the Rights of others, besides the *Surrenders*, would not have been injured.

His third Objection against the Justice of the Clause, is but the second; for, unless *Surrenders* were lawful before, it cannot be thought that this Clause punishes them *ex post facto*.

The second Clause which he objects against, is that *Second* which inflicts 500 *l.* penalty, to be recovered only by a *Clause*, Member of the *Corporation*, against such as act after the Disability, and works a total Disability upon Verdict found, or Judgment given by Confession, with a provision, That a former Action, depending for three Terms, shall be no Plea, nor shall a *New Suit* of one Plaintiff be a bar to another.

The true ground of his Quarrel against this is, The prudence to avoid its being defeated by any Pardon, or by leaving *Criminals* a Power to clear one another by such Sham-Actions as *Godwin's* against *Sir Edward Hales*; nor can any one justly blame the farther care, that this Act may not occasion trouble to innocent persons, by encouraging strangers to what has pass'd in *Corporations*, to prosecute at a venture.

Some will be apt to say, that his open and gross Objections proceeded rather from some cloudiness in a Brain mov'd with a preternatural heat, than from any just ground: he

21. 9

will repeat the burthen of his *Rayings*; that it was a design to exclude the *Church of England Party* out of *Parliament* for seven years.

It was indeed level'd against them who usurp or engross to themselves the name of the *Church of England Party*; and would make a *Faction* of the *National Church*, from which they would exclude most of the *Conformable Laity*. None were truer to the *Church's* Interest, than they who desir'd this *Clause*, as a means to prevent those Disturbances which are contriv'd by men who use the name of the *Church* to countenance the worst of *Crimes*; and aim at nothing more than advancing themselves; and if in some places well-meaning men were drawn in, they themselves would be glad, that by their sitting still for some time, the *Corporations* throughout *England* might flourish, and the *People's* Interest in the *Legislature* be secur'd, by the removal of so many *Canker'd Members*, as having such an influence over *Elections*, or power in *Returns*, as this *Gentleman* owns, robb'd the *Common People* of their best Inheritance, and went very far towards suffering *Papery* and *Slavery* to be establish'd by Law.

Third  
Clause.

These *Clauses*, which would have been an happy means of settling this Nation, being rejected, another was offer'd, which would have punish'd them who *surrender'd*, or *proclaim'd Surrender*; when the *Majority* were against them; this which was a manifest Crime, their *Advocate*, with his usual *Figures*, would make to depend upon chance, and is very elegant about the way of voting; and the danger of speaking first: whereas the question is not of *Surrender* attempted without effect, but of such as were actually made without the consent of the *majority*; and who but one of this *Author's* subtiles would plead for these?

§. 21.

But because the *Clause* does not allow the Instrument of *Surrender*, or *Entries* in their *Books* to be evidence; it being foreseen, that they who will pretend to represent others, will not scruple to set down their names; therefore he will have it, that they are not allowed the privilege of a *majority*.

Thus

Thus have I expos'd the *wretchedness* and foulness of his Objections to these Clauses; but one of his arts is yet behind, which is the concealing another Clause offered for *Fourth* disabling only *Mayors, Recorders and Town-Clerks*, guilty *Clause* of this Crime: his *Party* so well approv'd of those *Surrenders*, by which they were enabled to justify them, that they would not suffer any mark to be set so much as upon them. And I question whether they will allow of any one of those grounds, which His Majesty has declared for his descent hither.

I have no purpose or concern to excuse *Itinerant Regulators*, but with all my heart let them be jumbled in a bag together with the *Itinerant Electors*, who, that what they call the *Church-of-England-Party*, might appear considerable, took care to be represented many times over, the same friendly Band, chusing Members for several *Corporations and Burroughs*. But this *fallacious Writer* has us'd as much art to conceal the worst sort of *Regulators*, who set the example to the rest, as some have done to wrest both *Fact* and *Law* for the destruction of those who oppos'd what they call'd the *Church-of-England-Party*. He could not but know that the *Itinerant Regulators*, at the latter end of the Late King's Reign, were a few inconsiderable Persons, who were but Day-labourers, and did the drudgery for Bread. But the *whole Church-of-England-Party*, if he compute right, were *Regulators* in *King Charles* his time, and would have been so in *King James's*, if he would have followed their Advice, and have kept *Popery* under a mask till the Work was finish'd, and assured by open-fac'd Arbitrary Power, which these *Conformable men* were eager to carry on, while they could have the pretence of *Loyalty* to varnish over their Treachery to their Countrey, and real Treason against the *Kingdom*.

Quere. who  
guilty of this  
at the Tryals  
of L<sup>d</sup> R Mr C.  
&c.

Were there a *Proclamation* in pursuance of his Majesty's Declaration, while he was but *Prince*, setting aside the *Old Regulations*, as the Late King did the *New ones* I persuade my self, that neither such *Crimes*, nor such *Defences* would pass unpunish'd.

T H E E N D.